



**KWIB**

**Kentucky Workforce  
Investment Board**

*For a 21st Century Workforce*

# KWIB NEWS

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

NOVEMBER 2001

## Bowling Green Hosts First Roundtable

The KWIB, through the Local Liaison Committee, held the first in a series of roundtables in Bowling Green on September 27. Governor Martha Layne Collins, Secretary Allen Rose and KWIB Chair Ken Oilschlager served as facilitators at the event, along with local host Margaret Grissom, President of the Bowling Green Chamber of Commerce.

Organizers had three goals for the roundtable:

- Strengthen ties between KWIB/local Workforce Investment Boards and regional business and industry.
- Identify the major issues facing business and industry in the region.
- Identify the services business and industry needs from the workforce development system to help address the major issues.

Many of the business leaders in attendance voiced concerns about the basic skills of workers. Other concerns included the lack of effective communication among education, workforce and business communities; difficulty recruiting and retaining qualified, highly skilled workers; and labor shortages in specific occupational areas.

A "Notes and Action Steps" document was produced by KWIB



*Caption describing picture or graphic.*

*(Continued on page 3)*

## KWIB Focuses on Services to Businesses

The Kentucky Workforce Investment Board met October 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> at Lake Barkley State Resort Park in Cadiz, Kentucky. The Board's standing committees met the afternoon of the 10<sup>th</sup>, then enjoyed the hospitality of the Pennyrile-Purchase Area Workforce Investment Board.

During the business meeting the morning of the 11<sup>th</sup>, the Board heard and approved two motions, one from the Accountability and Funding Committee and one from the Business and Industry Committee. The Accountability and Funding Commit-

*(Continued on page 3)*

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

WIA Awards Banquet 2

Labor Market Survey 2

New Economy Plan 3

America's Service Locator 4

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**NOV. 8 10:00 – 2:00**

**LOCAL WIA CHAIRS**

**LINCOLN TRAIL ADD OFFICE  
ELIZABETHTOWN**

**NOV. 15 9:00 - 1:00 CST**

**KWIB YOUTH COMMITTEE**

**UNIVERSITY PLAZA HOTEL  
AND CONVENTION CENTER  
BOWLING GREEN**

**NOV. 15-16**

**YOUTH SUMMIT**

**UNIVERSITY PLAZA HOTEL  
AND CONVENTION CENTER  
BOWLING GREEN**

**(FOR MORE INFORMATION  
CONTACT JUDY HILL OR  
SHARON BRITTON AT 502-  
564-5360)**

**NOV. 29 10:00 – 3:00**

**KWIB LOCAL LIAISON  
COMMITTEE MEETING**

**LINCOLN TRAIL ADD OFFICE  
ELIZABETHTOWN**

**FEB. 14 9:00 – 1:30**

**KWIB QUARTERLY MEETING  
HOLIDAY INN, FRANKFORT**

## WIA Awards Banquet a Huge Success

The 2001 Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Awards Luncheon was held October 25 in the Civic Center in Frankfort. Gov. Paul Patton presented awards to five alumni of state employment and training programs.

The five Kentuckians were recognized for overcoming educational, financial and personal

*"We're honoring five successful Kentuckians today," the governor said, "but they represent the unsung thousands who struggle against many odds to change and enhance their lives for themselves and their families*

obstacles to become successfully employed.

The awards, sponsored by the Cabinet for Workforce Development's

Department for Training and ReEmployment and the KWIB, recognize exemplary participants in WIA programs. The governor also presented awards to four employers and programs involved in education and training funded by WIA.

"We're honoring five successful Kentuckians today," the governor said, "but they represent the

unsung thousands who struggle against many odds to change and enhance their lives for themselves and their families."

In addition to Gov. Patton, speakers at the ceremony included: Allen Rose, Secretary, Cabinet for Workforce Development; Ken Oilschlager, Chair, KWIB; and Bill Sanders, U.S. Department of Labor.



*Caption describing picture or graphic.*

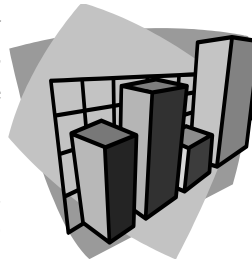
## KWIB Asking Businesses for Labor Information

The UK/UofL team which is conducting two labor market surveys for the Cabinet for Workforce Development and the KWIB has begun making phone calls and mailing out survey forms. The phone calls will be made statewide to 2,500 households to determine the extent of underemployment in the Commonwealth. Using statistical modeling, the results of this survey will be merged with county level data from the 2000 Census to provide estimates of underemployment in every county in Kentucky.

The survey forms are being mailed to 15,000 businesses in Kentucky - small, medium and large firms. This survey will focus on short-term labor shortages and vacancies, fringe benefits, and the level and type of educational credentials needed by businesses. Similar to the

household survey methodology, the results of the business survey will be merged with employment and earnings data collected by the Kentucky Department for Employment Services to develop estimates of shortages, vacancies, fringe benefits, and educational credentials for all Kentucky counties.

A preliminary data report is scheduled for presentation at the February 2002 meeting of the KWIB. The user friendly, web-based application of the final data, including the county level modeling, will be available in June 2002. Additionally, the researchers will work with Cabinet staff to develop processes and models to regularly update the data in the future.



*Caption describing picture or graphic.*

## New Economy Plan Depends on Workforce

To position Kentucky to take full advantage of the opportunities presented by the new, knowledge-based economy, a comprehensive strategic plan is being developed by Kentucky's Office for the New Economy (ONE). The plan is composed of three key elements: research and development; commercialization; and workforce development.

The Cabinet for Workforce Development was asked to take the lead in developing the workforce section of the strategic plan. The Cabinet convened a group of business, education, and government leaders in August to brainstorm on the future of

Kentucky's workforce. A small working group then put those ideas into a document that was submitted to the ONE. The Cabinet is currently working with the ONE staff to incorporate the workforce development goals into the complete strategic plan.

The Business and Industry Committee of the KWIB discussed and strongly endorsed the workforce goals during their meeting. The full Board briefly discussed the action steps needed to begin work on the goals.

*"To catch the reader's attention, place an interesting sentence or quote from the story here."*

## Regional Roundtables

*(Continued from page 1)*

staff following the roundtable to establish a preliminary action plan for addressing these issues. Due to the complexity and systemic nature of these issues, no one individual or agency will be able to resolve them. Instead, it will take a collaborative, action oriented, results driven approach to make significant progress. Secretary Rose, Governor

Collins and Mr. Oilschlager have committed themselves to addressing these issues and will work to convene the appropriate local and state partners in order to begin to resolve the issues.

The Local Liaison Committee is planning a series of roundtables throughout the state in the coming year.

## KWIB Convenes at Lake Barkley

*(Continued from page 1)*

tee requested that the Board vote to approve a change in the quarterly meeting dates so that more recent performance reports from the local areas will be available to Board members. The Board agreed to begin meeting in February, May, August, and November.

The Business and Industry Committee made a motion recommending that the Cabinet for



*Caption describing picture or graphic.*

Workforce Development train all service providers to be conversant in all programs. The committee also recommended as part of their motion that an outreach program be developed which focuses on small and medium sized businesses, utilizing consortium and other similar resources. This outreach effort should be coordinated with other state agencies, as appropriate, so that business owners have one point of contact for services.

As an immediate step, the committee requested that a resource guide of Cabinet services be developed and distributed. The motion was amended from the floor to request that the Board staff report back to the Board at the next meeting on plans to implement the recommendations.



Kentucky Workforce  
Investment Board  
500 Mero Street  
226 Capital Plaza Tower  
Frankfort, KY 40601

Phone: 502-564-6606

Fax: 502-564-7967

Editor: Cassandra Bagley

Email: [cassandra.bagley@mail.state.ky.us](mailto:cassandra.bagley@mail.state.ky.us)



The Cabinet for Workforce Development, which promulgates policy and manages agencies within the cabinet, does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, religion or marital status in training, activities or employment practices in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.



[www.eworkforce.org/careerkit/](http://www.eworkforce.org/careerkit/)

Mailing Address Line 1  
Mailing Address Line 2  
Mailing Address Line 3  
Mailing Address Line 4  
Mailing Address Line 5

## Kentucky to Promote America's Service Locator

To open their meeting on October 11<sup>th</sup>, the Kentucky Workforce Investment Board heard a presentation on America's Service Locator, part of a suite of web-based applications developed as tools for America's workforce by the US Department of Labor. The Service Locator provides comprehensive service information for any location in the US through a web site--

**[www.servicelocator.org](http://www.servicelocator.org)**--and a toll-free help line--**877-US 2JOBS or 877-5627 (TTY)**. The help line connects callers to trained call center personnel who can quickly access information on nearby services based on the caller's location.

Board members were pleased to learn that service is provided by DOL at no cost to the state and will give us one point of contact to market to Kentucky's employers and workers. US DOL has agreed to customize the Service Locator for Kentucky and the Cabinet for Workforce Development



[www.servicelocator.org](http://www.servicelocator.org)

and local Workforce Investment Areas have agreed to market the website and toll-free number.

Individuals or businesses can call this number and receive general information about all major programs and services under America's Workforce Network including:

- Youth Employment
- Welfare-to-Work
- Apprenticeship Training
- Employment of Persons with Disabilities
- Rapid Response Services
- Training Programs
- Unemployment Insurance
- Restructuring/Layoff Services